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Report : Petition of H. McMann

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES.

MAY 20, 1890.—Ordered to be printed.

Mr. FAULKNER, from the Committee on Pensions, submitted the following

REPORT:

[To accompany H. R. 6402.]

The Committee on Pensions, to whom was referred the bill granting a pension to Mrs. Harriet McMann, have examined the same, and report:

Your committee adopt the report in this case submitted by the House Committee on Invalid Pensions, and recommend the passage of the bill. The report is as follows:

Claimant is the widow of John T. McMann, corporal Company G, Twenty-first Michigan Infantry, second lieutenant First United States Veteran Engineers, and second lieutenant First United States Infantry, who enlisted August, 1862, and who resigned his commission in the last-named regiment on account of ill health April 6, 1869, after a service of nearly seven years; and he died April 14, 1872, from general debility and hemorrhage of the lungs, without having made any application or received any pension.

Widow filed application for pension May 11, 1880, basing claim upon injuries received while on duty near Resaca, Ga., October, 1864, and dysentery (chronic), liver complaint, and disease of urinary organs contracted while on duty with his regiment while on the plains in the Indian campaigns and while on duty in the Jackson Barracks in Louisiana.

Claim was rejected March 24, 1884, by the Pension Department on the ground of insufficient and conflicting testimony.

The records of the Surgeon-General show that he was treated in hospital at Chattanooga, November, 1864, for dysentery, liver complaint, and disease of urinary organs. Also the records of the Adjutant-General's Office show him absent, sick, December 2, 1868, and January 12, 1869. June 1, 1868, B. A. Clements, surgeon and lieutenant-colonel, U. S. Army, in charge of Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, certifies that he has examined him, and that he is suffering from disease of the bladder and urinary passages; that it would be at least three months before he would be fit for duty, and recommends a change of climate.

John H. Raugh, surgeon, U. S. Army, October, 1868, also certifies to this disease, and recommends an extension of leave of absence.

The evidence on file after his resignation and up to the time of his death is conflicting, but after a careful investigation your committee have no doubt that the soldier's death was caused by disability contracted in the service. The claimant is poor, and has supported herself by needle-work since the death of her husband; is in destitute circumstances. The soldier was a most worthy and competent man, as is shown by his promotion from the position of corporal in the volunteer service to lieutenant in the regular Army, and your committee therefore recommend the passage of the bill.